

Job Lyman House  
30 Elm Street  
Woodstock  
Windsor County  
Vermont

HABS No. VT.2 6

HABS  
VT  
14-WOOD,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction  
143 South Third Street  
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

JOB LYMAN HOUSE

1485  
VT.  
14-WOOD  
1-

Street Address: 30 Elm Street, Woodstock, Windsor County, Vermont

Present Owner: Dr. and Mrs. Lynn C. Stoker, 30 Elm Street,  
Woodstock, Vermont

Present Occupant: Owner

Present Use: Residence

Brief Statement  
of Significance: This large house is representative of a prosperous  
era in a prosperous town. It has unusually elaborate  
ornamentation.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: Built and originally owned by Job Lyman. To Colonel B. W. Rice in 1833. To Andrew Tracy 1849, who sold it 1887 to William E. Johnson, who left it to his daughter, Miss Margaret L. Johnson, who died 1958. The present owner bought the house in 1959 from the estate of Miss Johnson.
2. Date of erection: 1809-1810
3. Architect: Unknown  
Builder, suppliers, etc.: Job Lyman and local labor
4. Original plans, construction, etc.: Unknown
5. Notes on alterations and additions: The house was enlarged, probably to the rear, and the semi-formal garden to the north and rear of the house was laid out by Andrew Tracy in 1849-1850. The interior was redecorated by William E. Johnson in 1887-1888, replacing fireplace mantels, windows, and some interior wood trim. The present owners are improving the heating and utilities systems. The exterior preserves its original appearance.
6. References:  
Henry Swan Dana, A History of Woodstock, Vermont, Houghton, Mifflin and Company, Boston and New York, 1889, p. 178.  
Dorothy and Richard Pratt, A Guide to Early American Homes, North, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York, p. 82.

Old Buildings Project of the Robert Hull Fleming Museum  
at the University of Vermont, Burlington, 1937-1938.

Mrs. J. Peter Gratiot, Otis Hill Farm, Woodstock, Vermont.

Dr. and Mrs. Lynn C. Stoker, 30 Elm Street, Woodstock,  
Vermont.

- B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure: Job Lyman (1781-1870), who built the house and was the original owner and occupant, graduated from Dartmouth College, 1804, practiced law in Woodstock from 1808 to 1850, when he moved to Burlington, Vermont.

Prepared by Osmand R. Overby  
November 1959

## PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

### A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: Large house with unusually elaborate exterior ornamentation, reflecting a prosperous era in a prosperous town.
2. Condition of fabric: Good

### B. Technical Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Front block approximately 40' x 32', with ell to the rear approximately 20' x 30'. Two stories, plus cellar.
2. Foundations: Stone
3. Wall construction: Hewn timber frame, front and rear walls with clapboards. Brick end walls on the sides of the front part, Flemish bond. Facade ornamented with wood pilasters, two stories high, at the corners in a modified Tuscan order.
4. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: Elaborate front porch approximately 8' wide with four columns in pairs at the front corners and two pilasters at the wall line in Ionic order. Full entablature; cornice with moulded trim, bead course and dentil course. Surmounted by acroteria at the corners and a foliated double scroll framing a cartouche at the center. Two-story porch on back and one-story porch on north side--Doric columns, unornamented entablature.
5. Chimneys: Four chimneys on front block built into brick side walls, plus one chimney on rear ell.

6. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: Hardwood, sight-panel front door with sidelights. Lighted, panel back door. French doors to north porch.
- b. Windows and shutters: Six light over six light double hung windows with fixed slat shutters. Nine light over nine light double hung windows (probably 1887-1888 remodeling) leading to porches on north side and rear. First-floor windows on the front side have festooned wood lintels.

7. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: Hipped roof with balustrade around front and sides. Balustrade alternates open balusters with solid panels decorated with either a cartouche motif or a festooned motif. Foliated urns surmount the corner posts.
- b. Cornice, eaves: Boxed cornice, moulded trim with mutules and triglyphs on front and sides.
- c. Dormers, cupolas: None

C. Technical Description of Interiors:

1. Floor plans: Central hall with four end wall chimneys type plan with four principal rooms disposed around hall; kitchen in ell to the rear; porches to the rear and north (right) side. Second floor - bedrooms in similar arrangement.
2. Stairways: Principal stairway, short legged L-shape, in central entrance hall. Secondary stairway in the rear part of house.
3. Flooring: Wide pine flooring, mostly carpeted.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: Plastered walls and ceilings; papered walls. Paneled wainscot in front entrance or central hall.
5. Doorways and doors: Four and eight panel doors.
6. Trim: Moulded wood trim, apparently from both 1809-1810 and 1887-1888.
7. Hardware: Some original brass hardware. Mostly porcelain doorknobs, apparently from 1887-1888.
8. Lighting: Electric

9. Heating: Central heating, new radiators being installed by present owners. Several of the original fireplaces have mantels in marble, apparently from 1887-1888.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation: House faces east on town lot, with large garden to north and rear.
2. Enclosures: None
3. Outbuildings: Rear ell connects to sheds and garages.
4. Walks, driveways, etc.: Driveway to rear.
5. Landscaping, gardens, etc.: Semi-formally landscaped garden to north and west of the house, with gravel paths, lawn, trees, shrubs and flowers.

Prepared by Osmund R. Overby  
November 1959